

Def. Doc. No. 1093

EXPLANATION OF HRCO POLO INCIDENT GIVEN BY
FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN ON JULY 8 1937.

We cannot but conclude that the occurrence of the Lukouchiao incident was due fundamentally to the ulterior scheme of the Chinese, especially of the Hanking Government. Some of the main reasons are as follows:

1. With the ultimate aim of forcing the Hobei-Chaha region to come under the direct control of the Hanking Government, the Blue Shirt Society and other elements, under the influence of the Hanking Government authorities, have been secretly endeavouring to alienate the Hobei-Chaha Political Council from Japan and thus bring about chaotic conditions in the region under the jurisdiction of that Council.
2. That the Japanese garrison troops in North China are perfectly entitled to hold manoeuvres under the provisions of the treaty concluded following the Boxer Rebellion is indisputable. The Chinese troops stationed in the district where the incident happened had been showing a disagreeable attitude toward such manoeuvres taking place there. This hostile attitude was further aggravated by the agitations of the Blue Shirt Society and of others. Anti-Japanese feeling ran high and the general atmosphere became quite tense.

3. In the Tientsin district, rumours had been rampant

from the latter part of June to the effect:

- (1) That the Japanese would start something.
- (2) That the agents of the Blue Shirt Society would begin terrorist tactics.

From about the 25th of June until the early part of July, an extraordinary precaution had been taken nightly in and out of Peiping while the chief authorities of the Peace Preservation Department of the Hopei-Chahar Council had consultations for making concrete arrangements to meet an emergency, and by July 3, necessary guards had been placed accordingly.

4. Under such previous arrangements, the Hopei-Chahar Council showed no sign of perturbation at the time of the out-break of the Lukouchiao incident feigning as though it had happened as a matter of course, and put the city of Peiping under strict police vigilance in a comparatively short space of time.

5. Facts are established that the Nanking Government sent encouraging telegraphic and telephone communications to the Hopei-Chahar Council as soon as the incident occurred telling them that, if necessary, four divisions of the Central Army would be dispatched to the north for reinforcement. Thus it is evident that the Nanking Government regarded the incident as a golden opportunity for putting the Hopei-Chahar region under its authority.

Def. Doc. No. 1036

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Y. K. SUI, Major, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 2 pages and entitled "Explanation of Marco Polo Incident given by Foreign Office spokesman on July, 8, 1937" is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certify at Tokyo,

on this 3th day of April 1947.

A. Hayashi

Signature of Official

Witness: A. Urabe

一九三七年昭和十二年七月八日外務省情報部長の
行つた盧溝橋事件の説明

我々は盧溝橋事件の發生は根本的に支那、特に南京政府の何か思ふ所のある計に依るものだと思定する外はないのであります。

その主な理由の若干は次の如くであります。

一、冀察地區をめぐって、南京政府の直接の支配下に置く、究極の目的を以て藍衣社其他の南京政府當局勢力下の分子は、冀察政務委員會を日本から顧問し、それに依つて、此委員會の管轄下地區に混沌たる状態を惹き起さんと秘に勢力中でありました。

二、北支に於ける日本警備隊は北清事變後締結された條約の規定に依り演習を行ふ完全な權利のある事は明白であります。

事件の發生した地區に駐屯してゐた支那軍は、そのやうな演習が其處で行はれる事に不同意の態度を示して來ました。此の如きある態度は、藍衣社其他の煽動により一層悪くなりました。

Ref Doc # 1093

反日感情は昂まり一般の尊國氣が非常に緊張して参りました。

天津地區では六月下旬から次のやうな噂が盛に流布されて居りました。

即ち(一)日本(軍)は何かをやり出すだらう。

(二)藍衣社の活動は、テロ威嚇を開始するだらう。と。

六月二十一日頃から七月上旬に至る間、北京の内外では毎晩異常な警戒が行はれました。一方、冀察政務委員會の治安維持部の主腦部では非常事態に對處する爲の具體的な準備をする爲、相談が行はれました。さうして七月三日迄に、それに従つて必要な警戒者が配置されました。

四 このやうな豫備的手配をしてゐたので冀察政務委員會は、盧溝橋事件が勃發致しました時、恰も當然の事が起つたかの如く幾ひ何等動搖の色を見せませんでした。さうして比較的短時間に、北京市に嚴重な巡査の警戒網を張りました。

Ref No #1093

此事件が勃発すると直に南京政府は冀察委員会に、若し必要なら中央軍四ヶ師を増援の爲北方に派遣すると激勵の電報を送り電話を掛けた事實の確證が呈つてゐるのであります。

これによつても南京政府が此事件を、冀察地區を己が勢力圏に置く千載一遇の好機であると認めたことは明かであります。